



P.B.5818 - Patentlaan 2
2280 HV Rijswijk (ZH)
+31 70 340 2040
TX 31651 EPO NL
FAX +31 70 340 3016

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Leeming, John Gerard
J.A. Kemp & Co.,
14 South Square,
Gray's Inn
London WC1R 5JJ
GRANDE BRETAGNE

J.A. KEMP & CO.

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Zeichen/Ref./Réf. N.86348 JGL	Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°./Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°. 02256421.5-1242-
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire ASML Netherlands B.V.	

COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the European search report for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

- Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division:

abstract

title

- The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract:

4

REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.





European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 02 25 6421

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT												
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)									
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1999, no. 12, 29 October 1999 (1999-10-29) -& JP 11 202496 A (NIKON CORP), 30 July 1999 (1999-07-30) * abstract; figures * * paragraph '0001! - paragraph '0007! * * paragraph '0018! - paragraph '0034! * * paragraph '0048! - paragraph '0050! * ---	1-14	G03F7/20									
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<p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p> <p>1</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Place of search THE HAGUE</td> <td>Date of completion of the search 4 July 2003</td> <td>Examiner Heryet, C</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</td> <td>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ----- & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"> X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document </td> <td></td> </tr> </table>				Place of search THE HAGUE	Date of completion of the search 4 July 2003	Examiner Heryet, C	CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ----- & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		
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X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document												

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 02 25. 6421

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

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